

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Keiji Hashimoto et al.      Art Unit: 1745  
Serial No. : 10/632,401                      Examiner: R. Alejandro  
Filed : July 31, 2003  
Title : A SEPARATOR FROM A FUEL CELL HAVING FIRST AND SECOND  
         PORTIONS OF DIFFERENT MATERIALS (AS AMENDED)

**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Notice of Allowance Date: October 17, 2007

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed October 17, 2007, enclosed is a completed issue fee transmittal form PTOL-85b.

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S REASONS  
FOR ALLOWANCE AND STATEMENT OF INTERVIEW

Applicant appreciates the opportunity to have discussed the instant application with the examiner in a telephone interview on December 17, 2007. In the telephone interview, the applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed amendments to the title and the prior art submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement on September 20, 2004.

During the interview, agreement was reached that the current title of the application is "A Separator from a Fuel

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Attorney's Docket No. 15468-004001  
PA0117US

Cell Having First and Second Portions of Different Materials" as amended on February 28, 2007. The title listed on the Issue Fee Transmittal document has been appropriately amended.

Agreement was not reached concerning the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on September 20, 2004. Examiner Alejandro asserts that the IDS filed on September 20, 2004, did not comply with the rules under Rule 97(c)(2). Applicants disagree, and submit herewith a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 20, 2004, and the USPTO stamped postcard showing that the USPTO acknowledged receipt of a copy of European Patent Publication No. 1 154 504. Furthermore, Applicants submit that the documents filed on September 5, 2007, were a Request for Initialed Form PTO-1449, not an Information Disclosure Statement. Acknowledgement of consideration of the prior art is respectfully requested.

Applicant agrees with the examiner's Reasons for Allowance. Applicant does not concede that the stated reasons are the only grounds for patentability of the allowed claims, that the limitations excluded from the Reasons for Allowance are taught or suggested by the art of record, or that all of the limitations are necessary for patentability of the allowed claims or other claims directed to the disclosed subject matter.

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For example, other claims including different limitations are patentable over the cited prior art.

Please apply the required fees in the amount of \$1,740 to our Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 17, 2008

  
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